Gulf of Mexico Alliance Regional Restoration Coordination Team Conference call 09-12-06. 3:00pm CDT

Participants:

Tom Calnan (TGLO)
Greg DuCote (LDWF)
Len Bahr (LA Gov Office)
Dugan Sabins (LDEQ)
Bob Seyfarth (MDEQ)
Carl Ferraro (ADCNR)
Randy Runnels (FDEP)

Kristopher Benson (NOAA)

Drew Puffer (EPA)
Dawn LaVoie (USGS)
Columbus Brown (USFWS)
Chuck Shady (MVD)
Larry Parson (USACE)
Chris David (NOAA)
Bobbi Reed (GoMF)

1.) Discussion of the upcoming October meeting -- come to agreement/understanding on location, dates, agenda, funding needs and potential sources. What work needs to be done (information and data gathered, technical experts invited, etc.) in preparation for that meeting?

Discussion of dates for RRCT workshop in LA resulted in date set for November 2 & 3 in New Orleans. Team members that cannot attend due to the Coastal Improvements Meeting November 1-3, please designate an alternate to represent you at the workshop.

TC: Are field trips still planned?

LB: Not feasible. Still worthwhile, but first workshop might need to focus on the working session in meetings. A "Lessons Learned" session may be able to incorporate some of what would be discussed on a field trip. Future workshops should include field trips.

??: It might be a good idea do a field trip in conjunction with a subsidence workshop

RR: Later topical meetings might be field oriented.

LB: First ½ day focus on geological history, cultural history of northern Gulf Coast, sea level rise, subsidence, ecosystem modeling, sediment management, energy-oil production, policy changes, other technical issues. Second half day focused on issues specific to LA, including lessons learned.

CB: Are these issues going to address GAP? Will policy issues be addressed?

LB: Yes.

BR: Is invitation list same as Biloxi?

KB: No, needs to include attendees from both Biloxi & NOLA workshops.

CB: Also additional USFWS names to include.

BR: Are travel costs covered for Mexican reps?

KB: Agreement is to cover travel costs for five state liaisons and alternates. Unless other significant workshop related topics need to be discussed, agenda will be circulated and plans for facilities, travel, etc. will be made.

Report on the Regional Sediment Management conference call

LB: What is Sediment Management Master Plan?

LP: Conference call Friday 09-08 kicked off process. The main purpose of the conference call was to align and get inputs from the states. Also got Corps districts on the same page, identifying the need for a mission statement. Work has begun to develop the mission statement as well as a straw-man strategy. Additional meetings scheduled (next is October 13 at 2pm). Workshop to engage states & other stakeholders likely in Jan. or Feb. after straw-man plan development.

LB: LA is strongly interested, there is a LA committee dealing with same issues which should be engaged.

2.) Brief update on Gulf of Mexico Program proposal review process and how funding may impact the Action Plan.

AP: Reviewers selected by next week, some high priority items may move ahead shortly.

Call ended 3:49pm CDT